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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 09596 221800Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 /023 W
---------- 095706 /70
R 221722Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USINFO WASHDC
URSNAAA/USCINCEUR-ECAP
USNMR SHAPE
SECSTATE WASHDC 8397
USIA

UNCLAS MADRID 9596

SECSTATE FOR EUR/IB DURKEE
USIA FOR IOP/F MILLER

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MADRID PRESS REACTION TO BROWN APPOINTMENT

1. DECEMBER 22 MADRID DAILY YA (CATHOLIC) CALLS SECRETARY OF DEFENSE NOMINEE HAROLD BROWN "MODERATION ENTRENCHED IN A PROFOUND UNDERSTANDING OF TECHNOLOGY AND NUCLEAR SYSTEMS." EL PAIS (MODERATE LEFT) CLAIMS THAT HIS APPOINTMENT WAS "SUPPORTED BY THE 'DOVES' OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY." DIARIO 16 CALLS BROWN "AN OLD HAWK CONVERTED OVERNIGHT INTO A 'MODERATE DOVE...'" JOSE MARIA CARRASCAL WRITES FROM NEW YORK FOR ABC (MONARCHIST) THAT BROWN IS "A BRAIN OF THE FIRST CLASS FOR THIS COMPLICATED WAR MACHINE THAT IS THE PENTAGON."

2. GUSTAVO VALVERDE WRITES FROM NEW YORK FOR YA: "...IN THE MOST RECENT SEQUENCE OF APPOINTMENTS...THE PRESIDENT-ELECT HAS KNOWN HOW TO COMPENSATE FOR CERTAIN OF HIS 'ERRORS'...AMONG THESE THE SELECTION AS CHIEF JUSTICE THE MUCH-DISCUSSED SUPERCONSERVATIVE LAWYER GRIFFIN BELL, HIS OLD FIREND FROM ATLANTA...THE BELL
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'SLIP' WAS BALANCED BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT TODAY OF... NUCLEAR PHYSICIST HAROLD BROWN...IN THE NAMING OF VANCE AND BROWN ONE CAN DISTINGUISH THE CLEAR INTENTIONS OF CARTER IN FOREIGN POLICY: A NEW U.S. STRATEGY ORIENTED TOWARD THE DIALOGUE OF DETENTE, BUT WITH ELEMENTS OF MODERATION, OF SCIENTIFIC AND ACADEMIC STATURE AND OF

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A CLEARLY HUMANISTIC AND EVEN MORALISTIC ORIENTATION."

3. JUAN JUSTE FOR EL PAIS: "THE NOMINATION OF BROWN...
APPEARED ENDANGERED WHEN THE POWERFUL...AFL-CIO...
DECIDED TO SUPPORT JAMES SCHLESINGER...THE MORE CONSERVATIVE
SECTORS OF THE PARTY ALSO SUPPORTED THE CANDIDACY OF
SCHLESINGER...ALTHOUGH CARTER DID NOT CEDE TO THESE
PRESSURES...SCHLESINGER WILL HOWEVER OCCUPY AN IMPORTANT
POST IN THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, CERTAINLY THAT OF DIRECTOR
OF THE TWO FEDERAL ENERGY AGENCIES..." ITEM. RYLANCE

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